UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO: Mr. Mohr

DATE: 12/7/63

FROM: C. D. DeLoach

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT

Nicholas Katzenbach, Deputy Attorney General, called me at 12:00 noon 12/7/63 and asked if I could come around to his office.

Upon arriving at Katzenbach's office, he showed me a revised press release (attached) to be issued by the White House concerning captioned case. It proved to be principally the same as the one shown to Mr. Belmont and me last night, with the possible slight difference that last night's first paragraph had been stretched over three paragraphs.

Katzenbach asked my opinion. I told him it was unchanged from last night, that it was our view that only the first paragraph of last night's draft be used, or the first three paragraphs of the current draft. Katzenbach agreed, but stated that we would probably be overruled by the White House.

Katzenbach made two additional points. He advised that he believed that Warren Olney had definitely been "dumped." He stated that he gave the "go ahead" on Lee Rankin late last night. He added that an approach would be made to Rankin immediately. Katzenbach also told me that our report on captioned matter would be delivered to Chief Justice Warren Monday morning. The Chief Justice apparently does not want it delivered to his home over the week end inasmuch as he does not have a place to safely keep it.

Mr. Belmont telephonically advised the Director of the above matter following my return from Katzenbach's office. We called Katzenbach and advised him of the Director's strong feelings regarding the press release. Katzenbach stated that Sorenson of the White House agreed with us, however Abe Fortas disagreed. Katzenbach is to talk with Fortas this afternoon.

ACTION: For information.

Enclosure

1 - Mr. Tolson - Enclosure
1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Evans
REW:ped (8)
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Jones

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